

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

**REPORT ON THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO TERRORISTS WHO THREATEN TO DISRUPT THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 53**

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

*To the Congress of the United States:*

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process that was declared in Executive Order 12947 of January 23, 1995.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, July 29, 1999.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 244. A bill to authorize the construction of the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System and to authorize assistance to the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, for the planning and construction of the water supply system, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-130).

By Mr. MCCAIN, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 761. A bill to regulate interstate commerce by electronic means by permitting and encouraging the continued expansion of electronic commerce through the operation of free market forces, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-131).

**EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. WARNER, for the Committee on Armed Services:

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

Lt. Gen. John M. Pickler, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

Lt. Gen. Larry R. Jordan, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

Maj. Gen. James T. Hill, 0000

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS**

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MCCAIN:

S. 1467. A bill to extend the funding levels for aviation programs for 60 days; considered and passed.

By Mr. LOTT (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. DODD, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. MACK, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. ROTH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. HELMS, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. BURNS, Mr. GREGG, Mr. ENZI, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BYRD, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. TORRICE, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. REID, Mr. ROBB, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. REED, Mr. KERREY, Mr. HATCH, Mr. FRIST, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. INOUE, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. GORTON):

S. 1468. A bill to authorize the minting and issuance of Capitol Visitor Center Commemorative coins, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

By Mr. CONRAD:

S. 1469. A bill to amend the Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1994 with respect to population outmigration levels in rural areas; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG:

S. 1470. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to ensure that adequate actions are taken to detect, prevent, and minimize the consequences of accidental releases that result from criminal activity that may cause substantial harm to public health, safety, and the environment; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

**SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS**

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. COCHRAN (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. STEVENS, and Mr. GRAMM):

S. Res. 169. A resolution commending General Wesley K. Clark, United States Army; to the Committee on Armed Services.

**STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS**

By Mr. CONRAD:

S. 1469. A bill to amend the Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1994 with respect to population out-migration levels in rural areas; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (CDFI) TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund Technical Corrections Act.

This legislation will make the CDFI program more responsive to low-population rural areas. It will allow the program to fulfill its mission of building the capacity of financial institutions in parts of the country that have experienced chronic, sustained out-migration in recent years.

As many of my colleagues know, the CDFI Fund was established by the Riegle Community Development and Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994. This program is intended to stimulate the creation and expansion of diverse community development financial institutions. The fund invests federal resources in—and builds the capacity of—private, for-profit and nonprofit financial institutions, leveraging private capital and private-sector talent and creativity. The fund invests in CDFI's using flexible tools such as equity investments, loans, grants, and deposits, depending upon market and institutional needs.

The Core Component is the CDFI Fund's main program. In order to be certified for funding, an entity must demonstrate that it has a primary mission of promoting community development, principally serves an underserved investment area or targeted population, makes loan or development investments as its predominant business activity, provides development services, maintains accountability to its target market, and is a non-government entity.

In order for a geographical area to be eligible for investment, one of a number of objectively-defined economic distress criteria must be met.

The problem, Mr. President, is that the objective measures of economic distress as currently defined by the CDFI Fund do not fully reflect economic distress in low-population areas. Allow me to share just a couple examples with my colleagues.

First, significant parts of low-population rural states like North Dakota have historically low unemployment rates and therefore cannot qualify on that basis. In many rural areas unemployment remains statistically nearly non-existent despite—and in fact because of—a lack of non-agricultural jobs. In rural North Dakota, the unemployed have little choice but to leave for urban areas.

The result is unemployment rates as low as two or three percent in rural parts of my state and the misleading